

An  
**Initial Study**  
of the  
**Fundamentals of Ice Crystal Icing Physics**  
in the  
**NASA Propulsion Systems Laboratory**

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# Outline

- Introduction & background
- NASA Fundamental Ice Crystal Icing Research Goals
  - Concepts using the NASA Propulsion System Laboratory (PSL)
- Experimental Description
- Results
  - Freeze-out characteristics of cloud
  - Changes in aero-thermal conditions at the test section
  - Accreted ice characteristics observed
- Summary



# Introduction

- NASA investigating the fundamental physics of ice crystal icing (ICI)
- Challenging to study ice-accretion physics directly inside the engine
  - Trying to simulate local ICI environment without using an engine
- This paper presents an initial study of the fundamental physics of ICI using PSL
  - Test occurred in March 2016
  - Select results presented
    - Last year, presented preliminary work in preparation for this test
  - Complementary papers to follow

**Advance Air Transport Technology  
Project (AATT; 2015 +)**  
Advanced Aircraft Icing (AAI) Subproject

**Technical Challenge:**

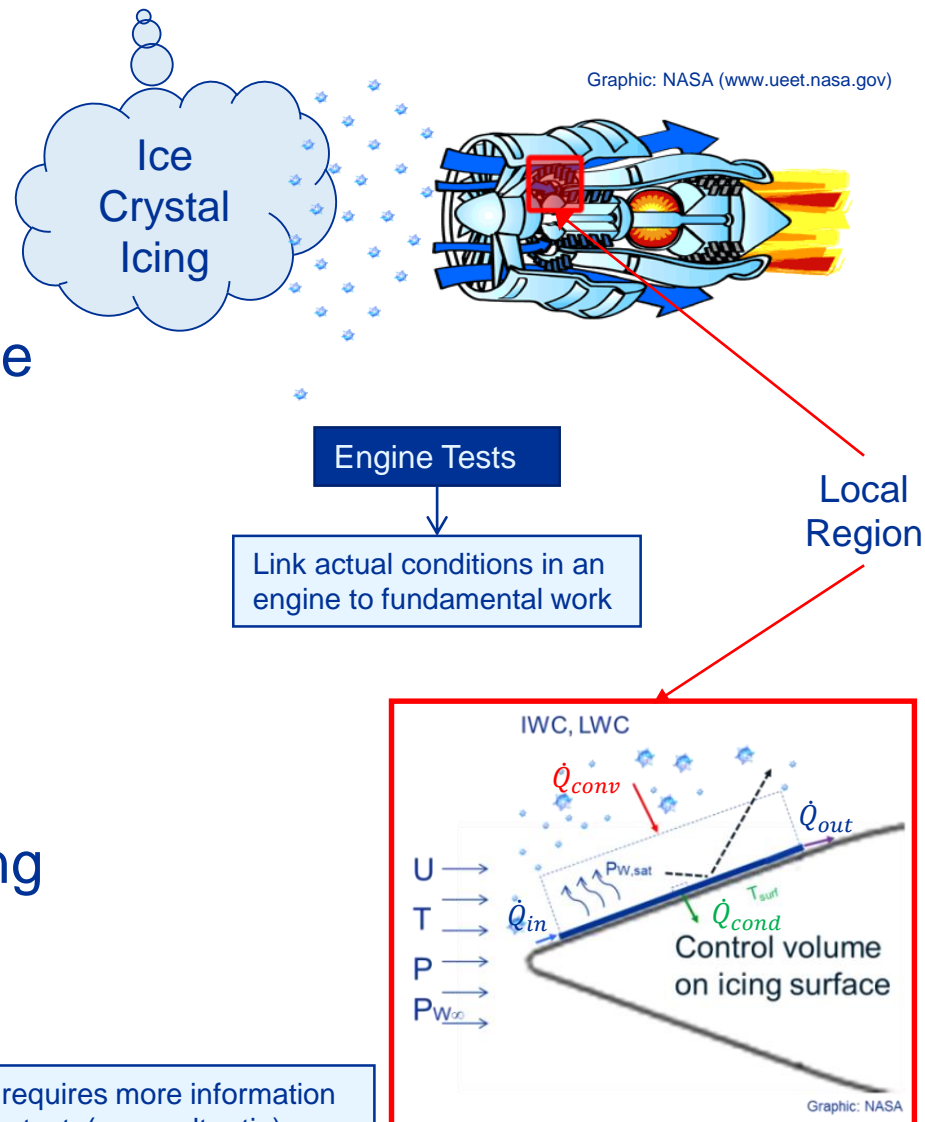
Expand engine aero-thermodynamic modeling capability to predictively assess the onset of icing in current and N+2/N+3 aircraft during flight operation (FY21).

The simulation tools are well anchored in results from both fundamental physics studies and full engine tests.

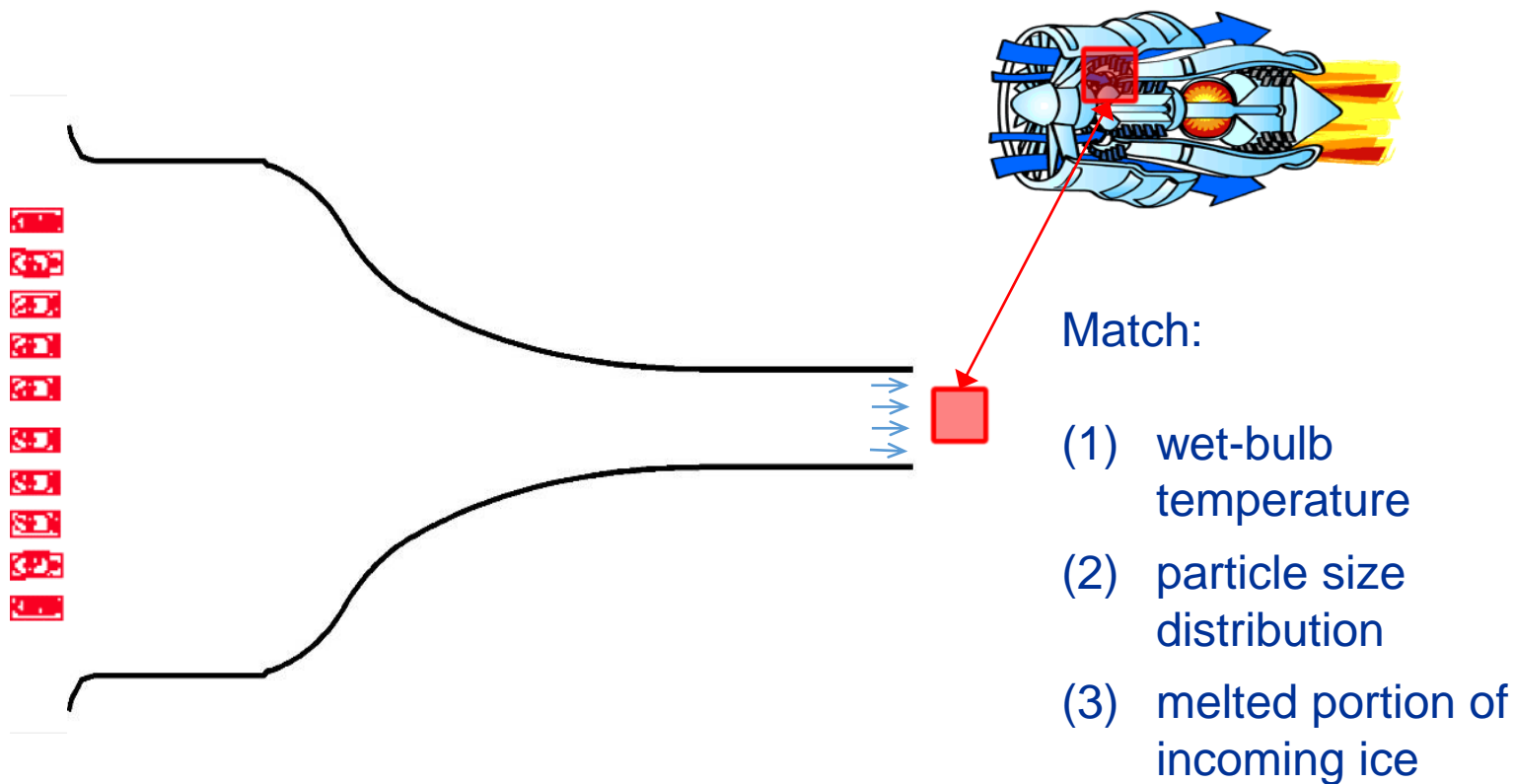
# NASA Fundamental ICI Research Goals

Graphic: NASA ([www.ueet.nasa.gov](http://www.ueet.nasa.gov))

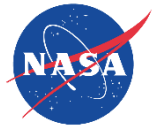
- Identify and bound the conditions affecting ice-crystal ice accretion at the (local) accretion site
- Generate & characterize (i.e. measure) those conditions
- Gather data and develop models on ice-crystal icing factors



# Concept Using PSL



**Goal:** Ability to generate a prescribed mixed-phase condition at the test section for fundamental ice-crystal icing research

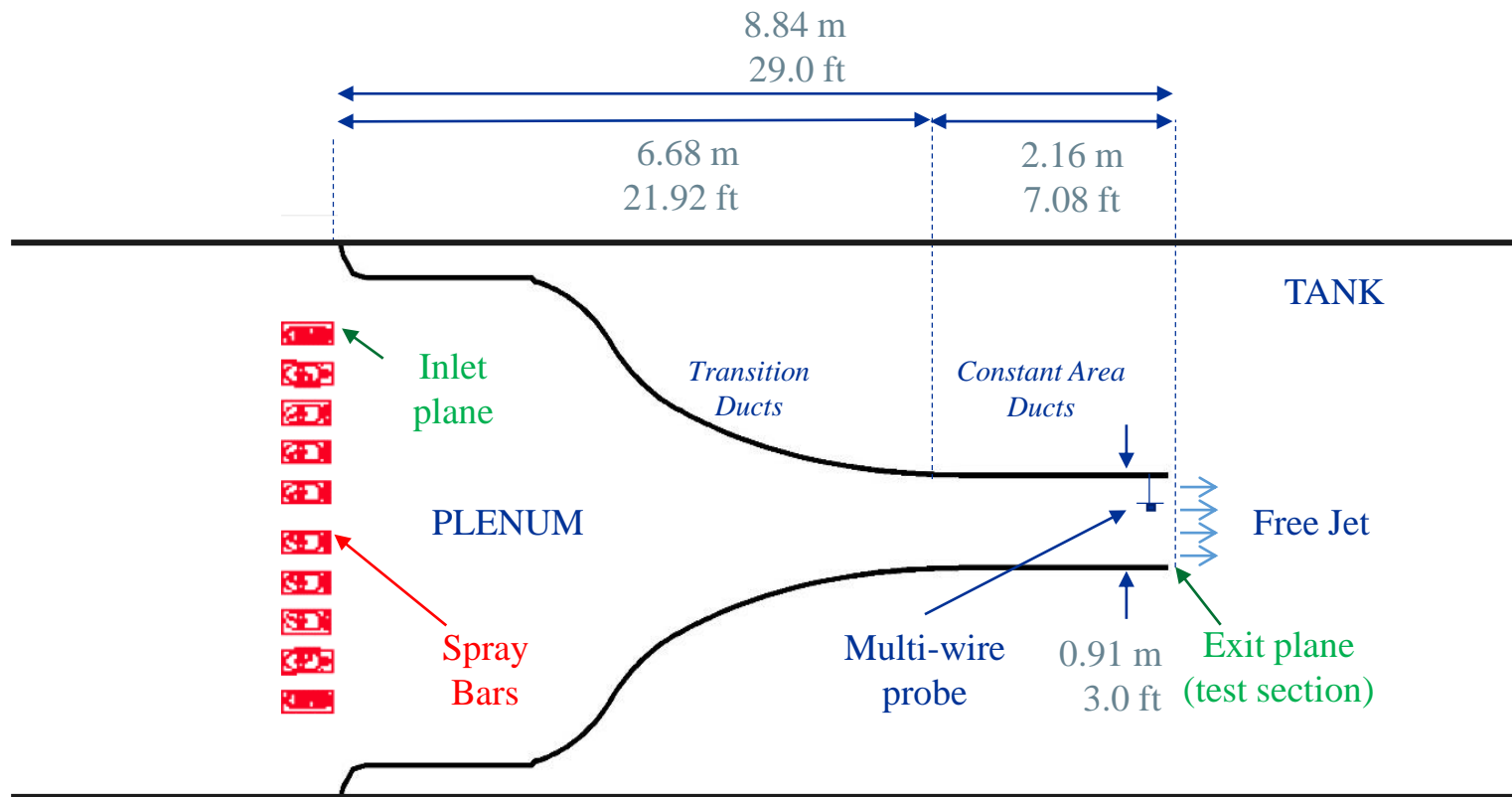


# Fundamental Test #1

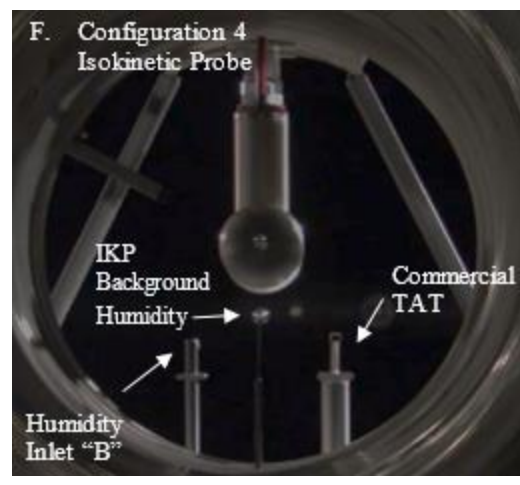
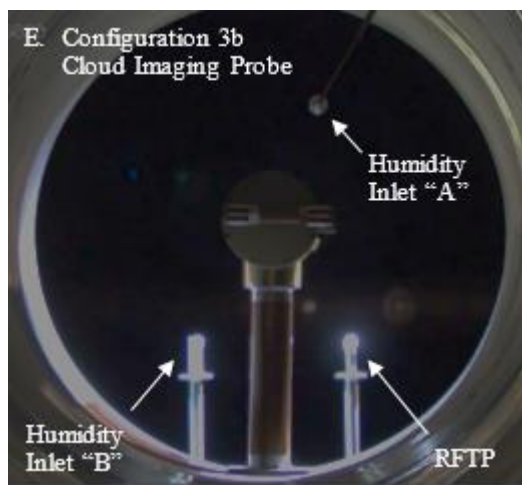
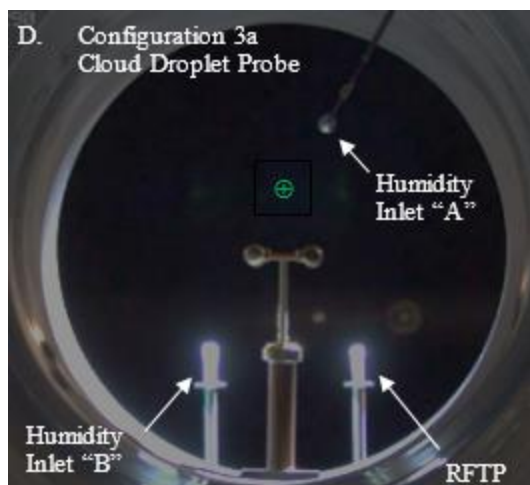
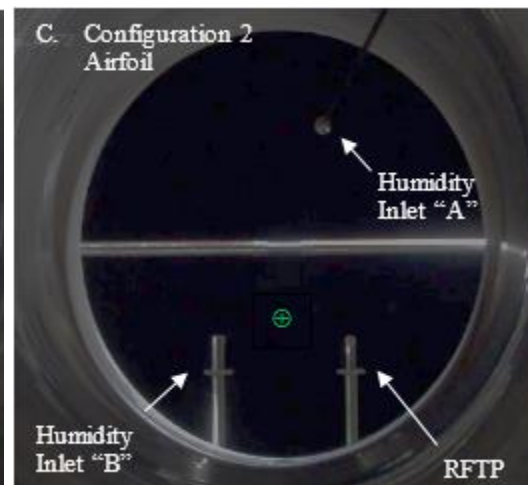
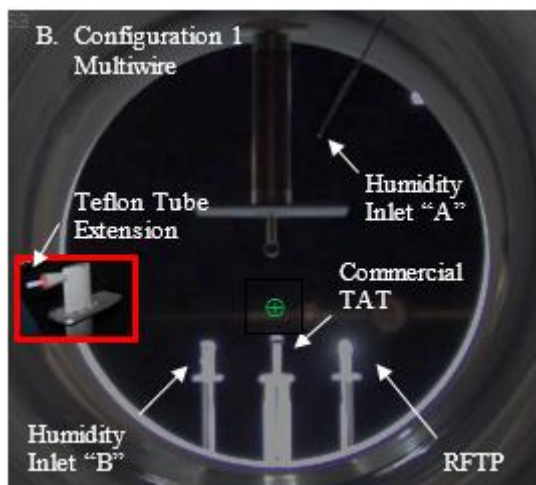
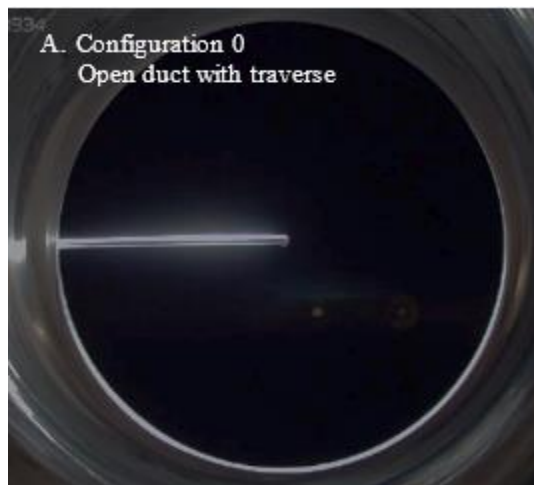
- **Eight (8) days of testing occurred in March 2016**
- **Objectives**
  - Examine spray bar and plenum parameters and how they affect the mixed-phase at the exit of the free jet
  - Cloud characterization at the test section:
    - Melt ratio (fraction of freeze out)
    - Total water content
    - Temperature & humidity measurements at test section (cloud on vs. cloud off)
    - Particle size distributions
    - Uniformity
  - Observe ice accretion



# PSL Configuration



# Test Configurations

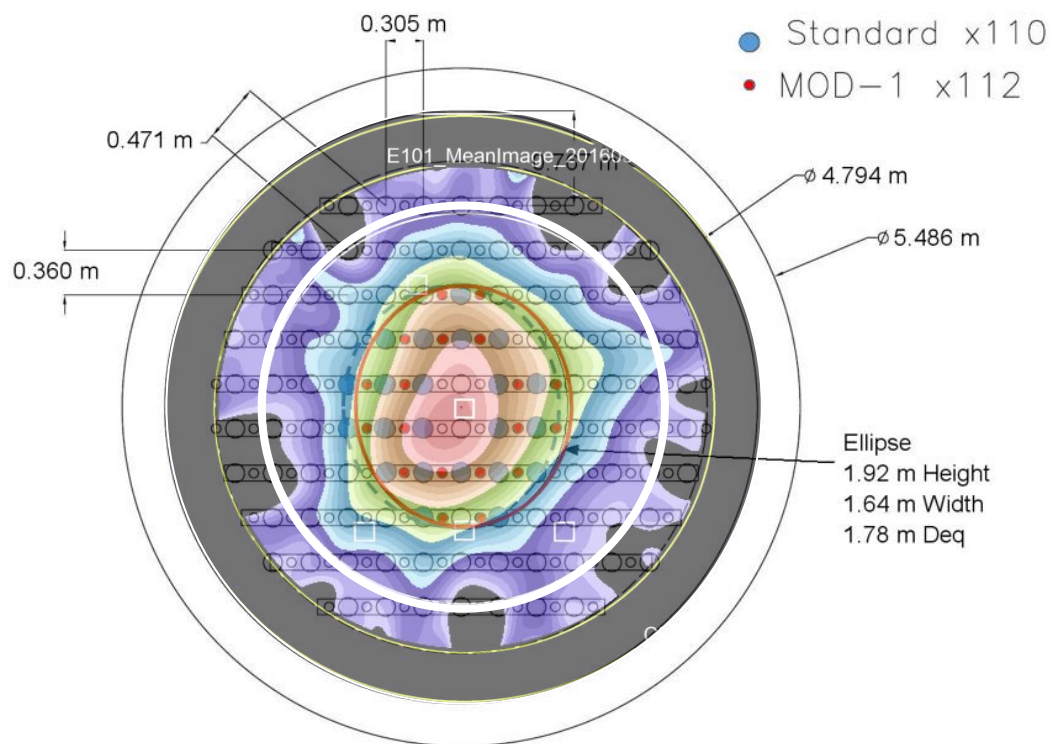




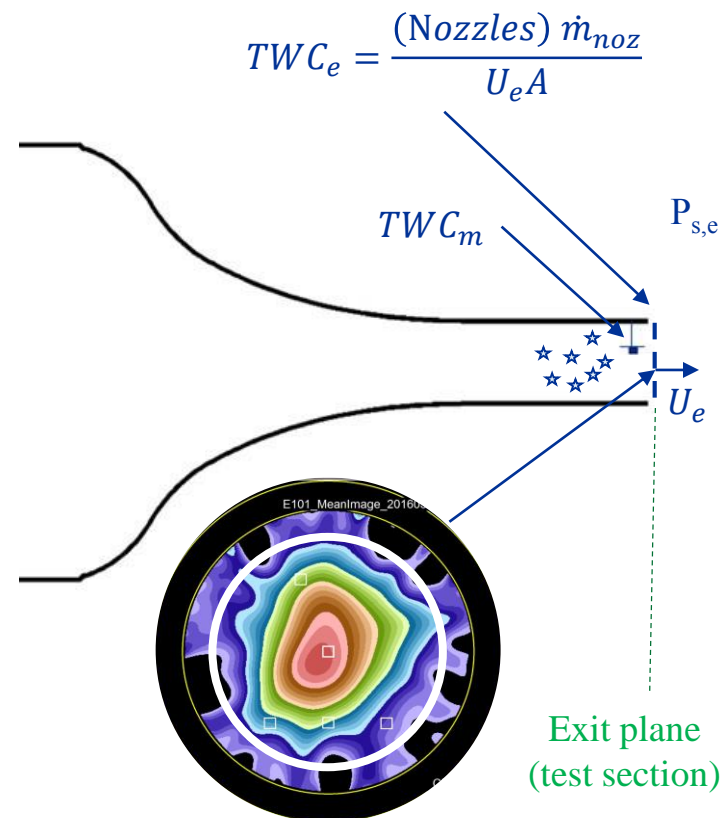
# Mixed-Phase Investigation

## Plenum Relative Humidity Sweep Approach

### Parameters



### Nomenclature



# Mixed-Phase Investigation

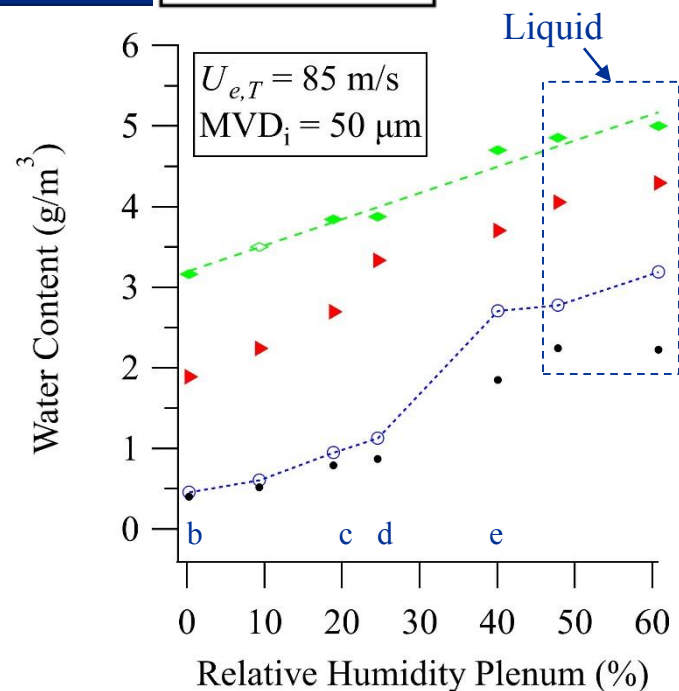
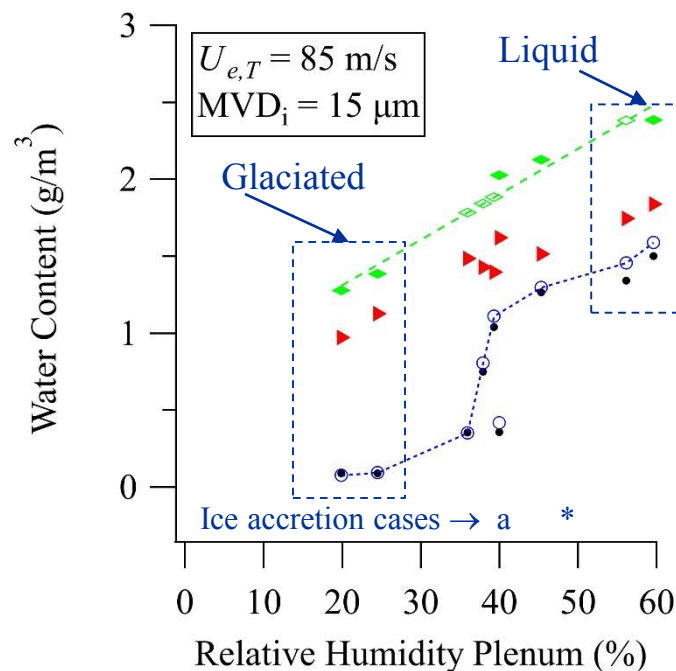
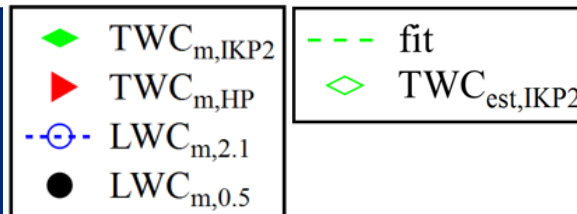
## Plenum Relative Humidity Sweep Results

### Water Content Measurement Results

$P_{0,i,T} = 44.8 \text{ kPa (6.5 psia) and } 42.8 \text{ kPa (6.21 psia)}$

$T_{0,i,T} = 7.2^\circ\text{C}$

$\text{TCW}_{e,T} = 6.5 \text{ g/m}^3$  (\* Estimated)



# Mixed-Phase Investigation

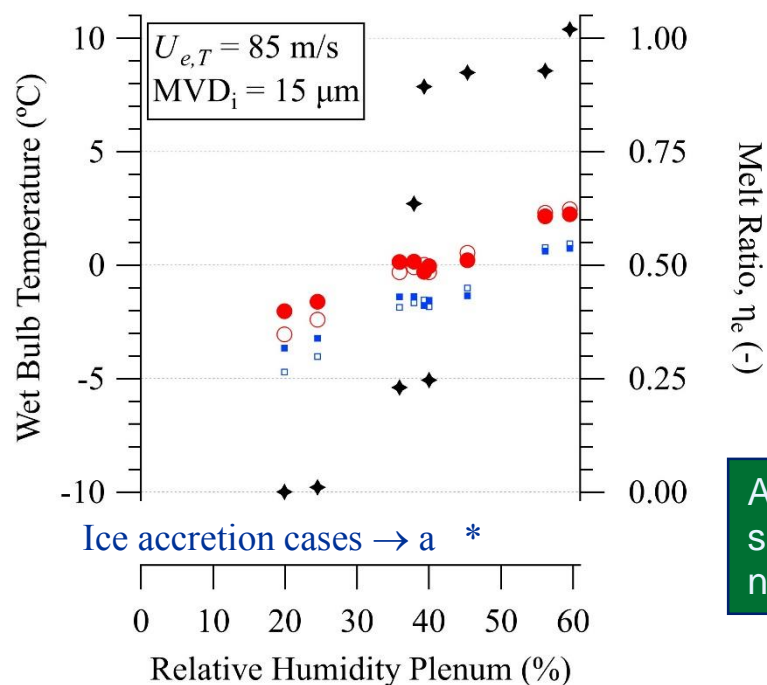
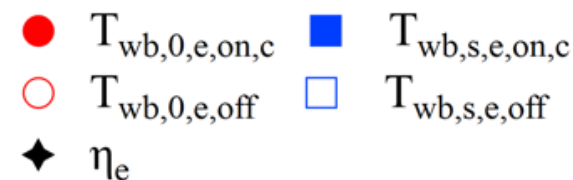
## Plenum Relative Humidity Sweep Results

### Test Section $T_{wb}$ (static) and Melt Ratio

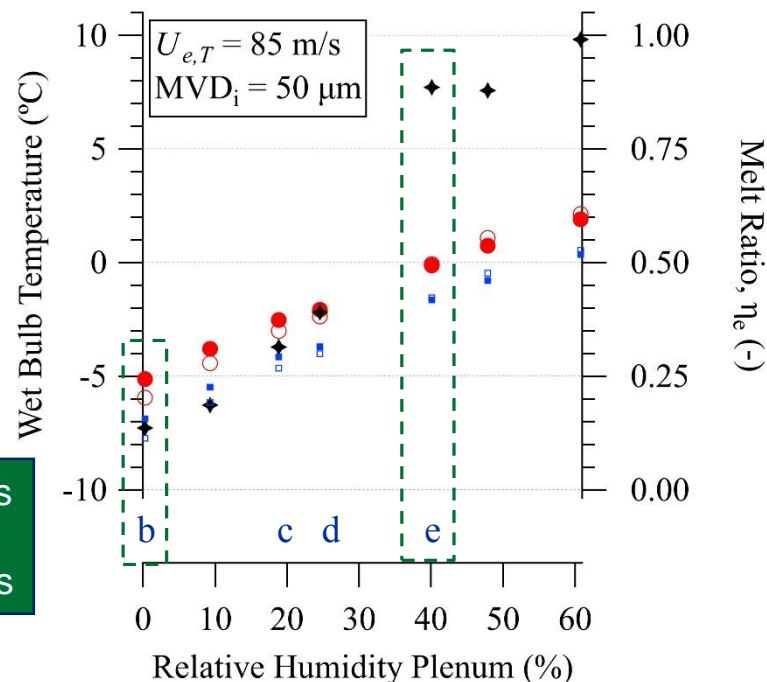
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Accretions  
shown on  
next slides



# Ice Accretion Examples

**Accretion “b”**  
**Low melt ratio**

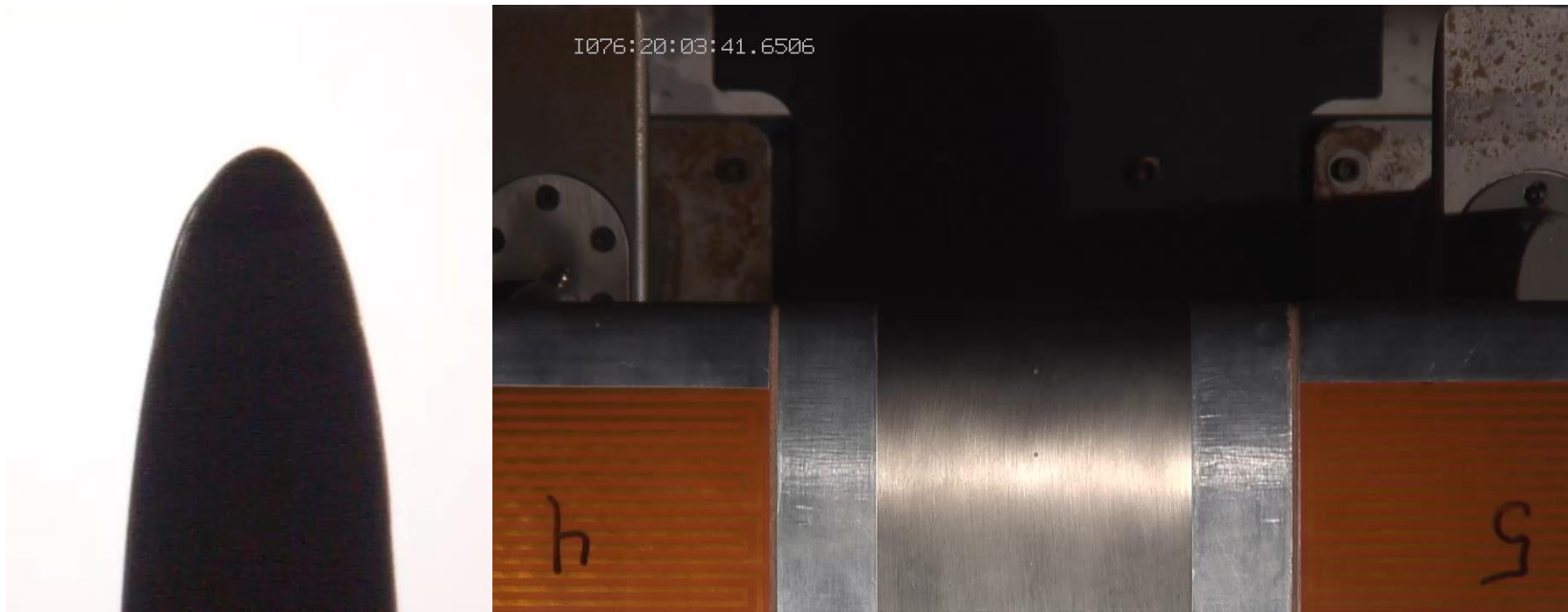
**8x actual speed**  
**(10 minute spray time)**



# Ice Accretion Examples

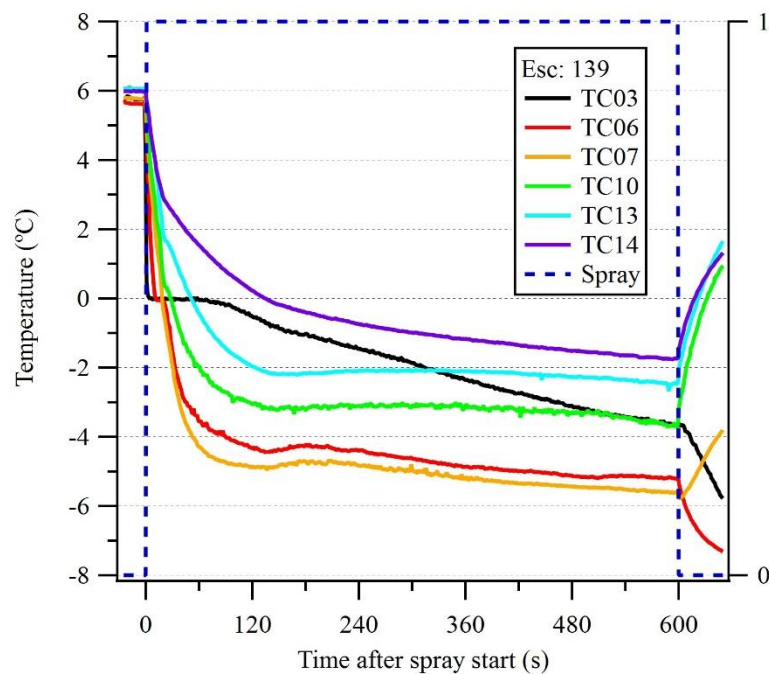
**Accretion “e”**  
**High melt ratio**

**8x actual speed**  
**(10 minute spray time)**

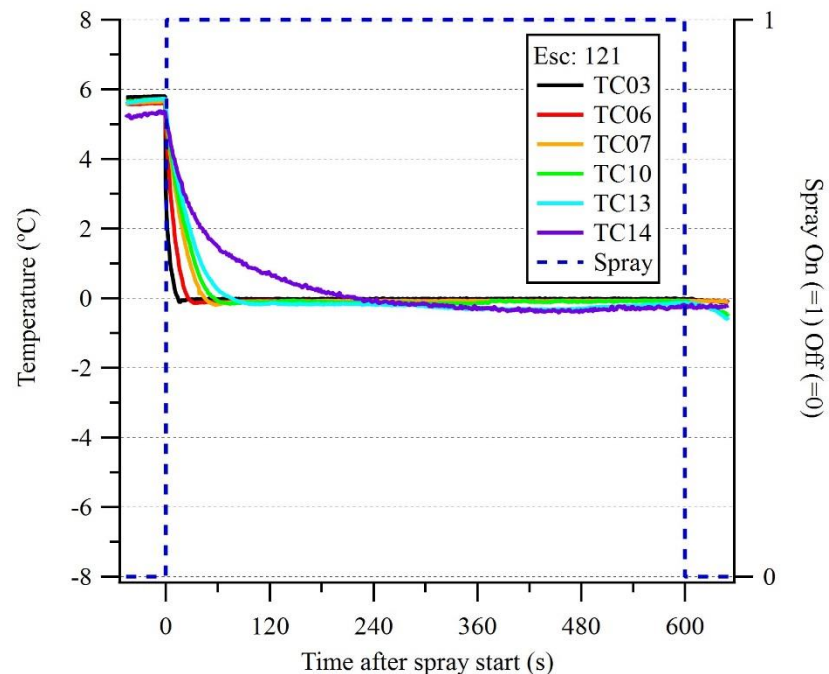


# Surface TC measurements

## Accretion “b” Low melt ratio



## Accretion “e” High melt ratio





# Summary

- NASA conducting research on fundamentals of ICI:
  - Identify and bound the conditions at the (local) accretion site
  - Generate & characterize conditions
  - Develop models & gather data on ice-crystal icing factors
- Generate environment outside of an engine to facilitate study
  - Using PSL as test bed
- Presented data from an 8-day test effort in March 2016, examining:
  - Freeze-out characteristics of cloud
  - Changes in aero-thermal conditions at the test section
  - Ice characteristics observed
- These result offer modelers a dataset to help develop and validate ice-crystal, mixed-phase accretion models.





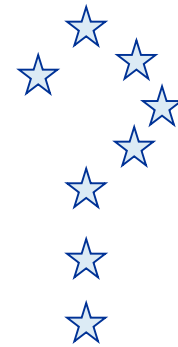
# Acknowledgement

- Financial support:
  - NASA's, Advanced Aircraft Icing (AAI) Subproject
    - Mr. Tony Nerone, Project Manager
- Special thanks to:
  - Staff of the NASA PSL
  - Mr. Chris Lynch for his excellent imaging work.





# Questions





# Backup Slides



# Measurements

- Temperature
  - Rearward Facing Temperature Probe
  - Commercial TAT Sensor
- Humidity
  - Spectra sensor WVSS-II
- Pressure / velocity / Mach
- Uniformity
  - Traverse RTFP
    - Temperature
    - Humidity
  - Condensed phase water
    - PSL Tomography
- Total water content
  - Isokinetic Probe – version 2
- Liquid water content
  - SEA Multi-Element Probe
- Particle size distributions
  - Cloud Droplet Probe (CDP)
  - Cloud Imaging Probe (CIP)
  - High Speed Imager (HSI)
  - Phase Doppler Interferometer (PDI)
- Video cameras recorded ice accretion

# Mixed-Phase Investigation

## Plenum Relative Humidity Sweep Results

Test Section Changes is T and  $\omega$  when cloud activated

$P_{0,i,T} = 44.8 \text{ kPa (6.5 psia)}$  and  $42.8 \text{ kPa (6.21 psia)}$

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